



EIT RawMaterials

Call for KAVA 9 Education and RIS Education projects

Instructions and process description

September 2021

1. Purpose and scope of this document

This document describes the process for preparation, submission, evaluation and selection of proposals in response to the KAVA 9 call launched by the EIT RawMaterials for the following KAVA (KIC Added-Value Activity in EIT terminology) types:

- Lifelong Learning
- PhD summer/winter schools

It is a requirement to register your intention to submit a proposal and a recommendation to contact the Co-Location Centre/Innovation Hub staff and the Thematic Officers/Senior Advisors before submitting the proposal. The Co-Location Centre/Innovation Hub staff can offer further advice.

All organizations involved in the submission of a project proposal in response to this call should read the following documents carefully:

The present document (call text)

- *EIT RawMaterials Education Project proposal FINAL DRAFT Guidance and Template for complementary information*
- *EIT RawMaterials communication and dissemination guidance*
- *EIT RawMaterials Project Management guidance*
- The Strategic Agenda 2021-2027 of EIT RawMaterials
- The *Lighthouse Appendix* that outlines the topics and criteria for application through the Lighthouses
- FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) that will be posted in the online proposal submission platform “Seedbook” (<https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu>), also containing explanations of the terminology used in this document; Project Coordinators should check this section regularly to ensure that they are fully informed and updated on important matters such as eligibility and evaluation criteria, advice on the compilation of the proposal, costs and cost allocation



All Education proposals must fit one of the two “learning segments” listed above.

1.1 Lifelong Learning

In order to align with the objectives set in the Strategic Innovation Agenda 2021-2027, as well as with strong challenges for Europe, EIT RawMaterials will call for a limited number of lifelong learning projects dealing with three thematic areas. The vision is to secure sustainable access to critical and strategic raw materials, advanced materials, and processing know-how for the EU industrial ecosystems.

Lifelong Learning has also been prioritized to contribute to the long-term continuation and well-being of the KIC as a network and service organization. This concept includes a revenue-sharing model between the KIC and the partners on the basis of the particular background IP and know-how contributed by both, and the generation of joint foreground IP and exploitation when developing the Lifelong Learning course or program.

Therefore, in KAVA Call 9, EIT RawMaterials seeks four Lifelong learning programmes which fulfill the criteria described below in two different Pillars.

Pillar 1 - Lifelong Learning proposals must be demand-driven, demonstrate a clear industrial need for a course, and show that they can support the sustainability of the organization.

Accordingly, Lifelong Learning proposals may be submitted, as long as they fulfil the following criteria and produce the mandatory deliverables:

- Applicants must prove customer demand at the time of proposal submission, and provide in annex to the proposal a letter of intent as proof. Applicants must demonstrate a competitive advantage over existing lifelong learning offers in the European marketplace, including an overview of the existing offers and price-benchmarking against existing competitors. Deliverable: training needs analysis. This report describes and analyses the professional education need expressed by at least one company. It includes the questions and answers provided by the companies the project participants have contacted. This is a mandatory deliverable in year 1.
- Applicants must include in their workplan a document that identifies the learning objectives and describes the design of the courses, including the name of experts creating the course and the teaching materials. Deliverable: course design.
- Proposals must include a sound business model. Deliverable: business model. Applicants will develop a business model for the course consisting at least of its cost structure and the expected turnover as a function of the number of participants. The business model will be established for three years after the funding period.
- Proposals must contribute to the KIC sustainability. At the start of the project, EIT RawMaterials will



discuss with the commercialising party a strategy for the financial sustainability of the KIC. The mechanism shall reasonably take into account the amount of the grant allocated, the impact generated by it and, if applicable, additional opportunities provided by EIT RawMaterials. Details of the backflow will be negotiated prior to the signing of the Project Agreement (PA) and will be outlined in the PA. The mechanism that will be implemented for the KIC's financial backflow must be outlined in the proposal to a sufficient level of detail that will allow a proper assessment of the project's financial risks and benefits for the KIC. If the project is recommended for funding, the details of the backflow mechanism (amount, caps, timeline, responsible party/ies, conditions, etc.) must be fully defined and agreed upon in writing by both parties before the project starts. Funds will be released only after both parties have agreed on the backflow mechanism and estimated amount.

- Projects must record achievements, lessons learnt, and continuously improve. Deliverable: course evaluation. After each training session, the partners will write a report that will include the number of participants, their institutional affiliation (including company/organisation's name), their gender and the result of the survey on the quality of the training and an improvement plan, if needed.

Pillar 2 – Thematic orientation

EIT RawMaterials Academy staff has carried out a systematic analysis of lifelong learning portfolio of projects and has identified gaps that need addressing. Thanks to KIC partners, EIT RawMaterials has matched these portfolio gaps with current and future skill gaps in the European workforce.

Henceforth, EIT RawMaterials seeks Lifelong Learning proposals which address four topics:

1. Design for circularity

The EU product policy needs to contribute to keeping climate and environmental impacts linked to resource and energy use within planetary boundaries. In line with the Green Deal objectives, the **sustainable products initiative** will revise the Ecodesign Directive¹ and propose additional legislative measures, so that its scope is widened beyond energy related products, and made applicable to the broadest possible range of products. The aim of the **sustainable products initiative** is to make products placed on the EU market more sustainable. This means reducing the overall life-cycle climate and environmental footprint of the products placed on the EU market, achieving longer product lifetimes for example through more durable and repairable products, increasing circular material use rate, reducing waste and achieving higher recycling rates.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32009L0125>



As a consequence, consumers, the environment, and the climate will benefit from products that are more durable, reusable, repairable, recyclable, and energy efficient. The initiative will also address the presence of harmful chemicals in products such as: electronics and ICT equipment, steel, cement and chemicals.

a. Target audience

- Product designers
- Engineers (mechanical, electrical)

b. Suggested learning objectives

- Understand the life cycle of a product
- Understand what is meant by circularity of a product
- Understand the new E directive and its impact on the current situation and the need for change
- Identify and describe the environmental impact of a product
- Interpret, evaluate, and criticise the results of a life cycle assessment
- Defend and formulate ways to improve the circularity of a product
- Modify, compose or create a (more) circular product (easy to repair, or to be remanufactured, or to be dismantled and recycled).

c. Suggested topics

- Electronic equipment such as computers, phones, tablets
- Domestic electric appliances
- Automotive sector
- Aeronautic sector
- Sustainable energy related technologies (photovoltaic panels, wind turbines etc)

2. Earth observation for the raw materials sector

EIT RawMaterials has developed and currently commercialises an online introductory training on remote sensing applied to the raw materials sector: RawMatCop Academy². It offers a hands-on approach and shows how to unlock the power of Copernicus for companies, organisations and research institutions along the entire life cycle of raw materials. During the course, participants learn about the various applications of earth

² <https://rawmatcop.eitrawmaterials.eu/>



observation data and how to work directly with Copernicus' Sentinel satellite data and open-source software to:

- Secure the primary and secondary mineral and material resources needed to transition to a sustainable and circular economy
- Monitor environmental impact and increase safety

EIT RawMaterials is seeking to create an **advanced in-person course** that will provide the learners with deeper and more precise knowledge and skills on the use of satellite data applied to the raw materials sector. This course is foreseen as the follow-up of the existing online introductory training and will be commercialised by EIT RawMaterials.

a. Target audience

- Professional geologists in companies or academia
- Mining engineers
- Councils and government agencies
- ESG consultants and specialists
- GIS specialists working in the raw materials sector

b. Suggested learning objectives

- Visualise and understand the latest developments on Earth Observation applied to the raw materials value chain.
- Applying directly the advanced techniques on prepared exercises.
- Automate data processing to solve simple cases independently.
- Integrate field data with satellite imagery and analyse results.
- Understand geostatistics methods for mapping and be able to create variance maps.
- Understand the characteristics of the different imaging types and be able to interpret hyperspectral satellite images.
- Understand the theory behind interferometry and be able to apply it in prepared exercises independently.

c. Suggested topics

- Overview of Earth Observation applications in the raw materials sector
- Data collection, management, analysis and visualization
- Integrating Earth Observation data with other scales of observation, e.g.:
 - a. Field data



b. Drones and airbornes

- Mapping variables (metal grades, field data, environmental properties) correlated with remote sensing data
- Smooth methods of geostatistics for mapping and creation of variance maps
- Prospective mapping (with ML)
- Automatisatation of data processing (e.g. using programming, Google Earth engine), also in combination with AI/ML
- Time Series Analysis on remote sensing data (interferometry, change detection, monitoring)
- Hyperspectral satellites, e.g. Prisma, Enmap)
- Interferometry

3. Environmental, social and governance

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues have become increasingly important in the wider discussion around responsible sourcing of raw materials in the context of the energy and mobility transition and the digital transformation. ESG in the mining sector is closely related to the social licence to operate (SLO) topic and is seen by many as the biggest risk to mining industry³.

a. Target audience

- Mining engineers
- Exploration geologists
- Managers, technical directors dealing with SLO in mining & processing companies
- Consulting companies in the mining sector and downstream sectors
- Local authorities in mining regions of the EU
- NGOs

b. Suggested learning objectives

- Describe what Environment, Social and corporate Governance is in general terms
- Understand the relevance of ESG in the raw materials sector
- Evaluate the environmental and social impact of a mining project
- Compare different responsible investment strategies
- Measuring non-financial and intangible assets in a company

³ <https://www.mining.com/web/esg-seen-as-biggest-risk-to-mining-industry/>



c. Suggested topics

- Sustainability and social impact
- Social licence to operate
- Corporate social responsibility
- Responsible investment

4. Rare Earth Magnets and Motors

Rare earth permanent magnets are the very core of the global megatrend of electrification. Offshore wind turbines that contain several tons of the material experience an exponential growth. Due to their high energy density, rare earth magnets are found in 95 % of electric vehicles' traction motors as well as all highest energy efficient white goods and industrial machinery, to name a few examples. There is a growing need to educate people along the rare earths value chain to be able to respond to a growing need for a skilled workforce, that is, particularly scientists, geologists, designers, engineers, and mechanics.

Based on the Lighthouse position paper Sustainable Materials for Future Mobility⁴ and the ERECON report entitled *Strengthening the European rare earths supply-chain – challenges and apolicies*⁵, EIT RawMaterials encourages applications dealing with challenges in sectors of particular importance, including but not limited to the metallurgical processing of rare earths, magnet making, e-motor and generator design as well as dismantling and recycling. Also, a circular economy of electric motors and generators would require a safe handling of the materials and related process all across the value chain.

1.2 PhD summer/winter schools

In order to deliver on the higher education ambitions outlined in the EIT RawMaterials Strategic Agenda 2021-2027, the higher education focus of KAVA Call 9 shall be on PhD summer/winter schools. The PhD education focus on summer/winter schools in KAVA9, as well as the thematic and pedagogical requirements, was discussed and endorsed by the EIT RawMaterials Education Committee.

The EIT RawMaterials seeks three PhD summer/winter schools in order to maximize the impact of PhD education in the EIT RawMaterials education portfolio by:

⁴ Available in the Infocenter (5.3_LHPP-Sustainable Materials Mobility) or upon request to your CLC education manager.

⁵ <https://hal-cea.archives-ouvertes.fr/cea-01550114/document>



- Building on the experience and best practices made from past summer/winter schools selected from previous KAVA calls
- Empowering and enabling PhD students to create and catalyze business ideas by integrating business creation opportunities into the PhD summer/winter schools programme design
- Equipping PhD students with knowledge, skills and attitudes thematically aligned to EIT RawMaterials Lighthouses
- Maximizing recruitment through a unified brand identity, strengthened visibility and harmonized marketing and promotion of the PhD summer/winter schools
- Contributing to the financial sustainability of EIT RawMaterials and PhD summer/winter schools by generating revenues from participation fees

The new PhD summer/winter schools must be aligned to one of the three EIT RawMaterials Lighthouses, namely “Raw Materials and Circular Societies”, “Sustainable Discovery and Supply”, and “Sustainable Materials for Future Mobility”. EIT RawMaterials will aim to select one PhD summer/winter school per Lighthouse. Applicants will align PhD summer/winter schools to a Lighthouses by incorporating at least one of the learning objectives of the corresponding Lighthouse described in Pillar 2 into the learning objectives of the corresponding PhD summer/winter school.

EIT RawMaterials will provide complementary marketing to the selected projects and together with the selected PhD summer/winter schools, develop a joint branding, marketing and recruitment strategy.

The PhD summer/winter schools will deliver on (at least) the following EIT Core KPI:

- # Participants in (non-degree) education and training (EITHE08.1)

PhD summer/winter school proposals must fulfill the criteria below, clustered in three Pillars.

Pillar 1 – Pedagogical Approach

The pedagogical approach and didactic design of the **PhD summer/winter schools** must be challenge-based, with PhD students developing solutions to challenges sourced from industry and/or start-ups/SMEs.

The PhD summer/winter school proposals must fulfill all of the following criteria:

- Include at least one of the Lighthouse learning objectives into the PhD summer/winter school learning objectives. These Lighthouse learning objectives have been extrapolated from the thematic topics included in the Lighthouse Appendix.
- Meaningfully involve industry and start-ups in the PhD summer/winter school programme and implementation
- Include key EIT education elements (e.g., empowering students with entrepreneurial education, provide industrial perspective, move from knowledge creation to applications)
- Adopt an interdisciplinary approach



The PhD summer/winter schools must establish synergies with EIT RawMaterials business creation instruments, such as the EIT Jumpstarter, EIT RawMaterials Accelerator Programme, etc. Consequently, Goal students should become inspired and feel empowered to further their technological / business solutions with the support of EIT RawMaterials business creation vehicles.

To encourage students' participation, the PhD summer/winter schools may also include a course component on technical topics and/or transversal skills and/or provide clearly define ECTS credits.

Pillar 2 – Thematic Orientation

The knowledge, skills and attitudes PhD students should have acquired after participating in a PhD summer/winter school must include one or more of the corresponding Lighthouse learning objectives extrapolated from the Lighthouse topics detailed in the Lighthouse Appendix.

LH Raw Materials and Circular Societies

- Apply circular approaches in product design, for instance by increasing repairability and recyclability of end-of life products containing Strategic Materials and/or Critical Raw Materials.
- Adopt circular business models and concepts of circularity when developing new business ideas.
- Understand the need for more holistic perspectives to circular economy to ensure the sustainable supply of critical raw materials to European industry (e.g., market support measures, regulation, consumer behavior).

LH Sustainable Discovery and Supply

- Utilize earth observation data and services for mineral exploration and mining, to boost economies-of-scale, increase supply chain transparency, increase health and safety, and mitigate/manage environmental impacts.
- Understand the value of Smart Digital Solutions and Machine Learning solutions for exploration and mining (e.g., digital twins, centralized due diligence, LCA, blockchain, machine Learning, artificial intelligence).
- Integrate multiple approaches and techniques in mineral exploration (e.g., geophysical data, remote sensing, on-site geochemistry, mineral chemistry) and perform complex data analysis.
- Elaborate the concept of Environmental-Social-Governance (ESG) for exploration, mining, and processing activities and recognize how principles of responsible sourcing and investment create value for the upstream industries.



LH Sustainable Materials for Future Mobility

- Develop an understanding of cross-value chain efficiency with links to energy efficiency, environmental footprints, and cost, and concepts of “Criticality” and “Circular Economy” management.
- Apply Life Cycle Assessment methodologies, and identify the specific challenges and opportunities related to raw materials.
- Illustrate the relationship and connections between the need for raw materials to realise a carbon-neutral Europe and implement the European Green Deal, in particular, through the decarbonization of mobility

Pillar 3 – Management and Implementation

Duration

The project duration should be maximum three years, with the first year for programme development and (up to) two years for implementation of one summer/winter school edition per annum.

Financial sustainability

The PhD summer/winter schools must charge participation fees and must strive toward becoming a self-sustained model. A detailed, well-planned strategy must be included in the proposal to ensure the PhD summer/winter school will continue beyond the project funding period.

Mandatory deliverables for PhD proposals

The following documents must be produced by all PhD proposals and listed under “deliverables”:

- Summer/Winter school design. This document includes the identification of clearly defined learning objectives, pedagogical approach and didactic design of the PhD summer/winter school, with contribution of industry and/or SMEs/start-ups in the programme and implementation
- Assessment. This deliverable will illustrate the competence assessment that will be given to PhD student participants in order to assess achievement of the learning objectives at completion of the PhD summer/winter school. The competence assessment results for each PhD participant will be submitted to EIT RawMaterials with a list of unique personal identifiers (representing the names of the PhD participants), gender and country of citizenship of participants. The document will also serve as supporting evidence for the EIT Core KPI HE08.1 during grant reporting.
- Evaluation survey. An evaluation of the PhD summer/winter school will be carried out by the consortium, which will include an analysis of the results, quality of the teaching and learning activities, quality of the organisation, and a lessons-learned report. Included in the evaluation will be anonymous feedback from PhD participants via survey, as well as feedback from the consortium through a lessons-learned workshop, conducted by the consortium.



Language of Instruction

The PhD summer/winter schools must be taught in English.

2. Project call and selection process

2.1. General rules and guiding principles

- All projects must lead to specific deliverables and outputs over a defined time schedule and they will be financed by EIT RawMaterials (the KIC) only for a defined duration.
- Proposals must meet the highest expectations and performance on the creation of impact (refer to Strategic Agenda 2021-2027).
- The following applies for RIS Education proposals : a) The majority of RIS Education proposal's activities are executed in RIS countries, b) they provide benefits for RIS countries, c) raise the innovation level of entities in RIS countries, d) are coordinated by a partner from RIS countries and e) contribute a reasonable/significant amount of EIT Core RIS KPIs from the Strategic Agenda 2021-27.
- Partners may request up to 100% funding for eligible KAVA costs. Any co-funding contributed by the project consortium will be evaluated positively.
- A detailed work plan must be provided for each year of the project duration at the time of proposal submission. The work plan must contain major milestones to be achieved during each of the year(s) of the funding period, including main deliverables and description of the envisaged project.
- Deliverables must include a mandatory Final Report including number of participants, their institutions, gender ratio, the full set of teaching material (**with editable master files**), results of training programme evaluations (participants' surveys) and an explanation of whether and how the KAVA project will be continued by the partners. The Final Report must include a Conclusion.
- All projects will be tracked, and their progress will be assessed for 5 years after the end of the funding period.
- In the case of a resubmission, it is mandatory to highlight the improvement performed
- In case of a proposal selected at Stage 1 of KAVA Call 8 that did not go to Stage 2 by submitting a FINAL proposal in time, the consortium must provide the reasons and will be able to resubmit a DRAFT proposal at Stage 1 of KAVA 9, except if the topic is no more addressed in KAVA Call 9
- If a proposal has already been supported with previous funds, please indicate them with the name of the project as well as the source of funding
- Specific tasks may be attributed to subcontractors, as long as the necessity is clearly justified and follows the general Horizon Europe principles. Please note that only a limited part (in budget and scope) of a project



may be subcontracted; depending on the scope of the work to be provided, it may be necessary for the entity to become a partner.

- It is possible to add other partners to the consortium after the project selection, but without changes to the total KAVA budget allocated to the project. Those partners have to be formally named to and approved by EIT RawMaterials, and in case of a non-member to submit an EIT RawMaterials membership application.
- Regardless of the funding source, in general, if an entity incurs costs as part of a KAVA they need to become KIC partners (with the exception of the RIS task partners). In other words, non-members who receive funding, or who incur costs as a result of a KAVA (even if the funding is brought in by them) need to become partners, supply all documents, pay fees and they need to report their costs, be subject to eligibility, etc. like any regular partner. Non-members who participate in a KAVA but receive no funding and incur no costs in the project do not need to become partners. They need to sign the PA, however, because this includes statements on IP, confidentiality, etc. that still need to be respected.
- The project duration can be from a minimum of 1 year to a maximum of 3 years. Note, however, that the Partnership Agreement (ParA) with EIT will be finalised in 2022. Therefore, the inclusion of projects will be conditional upon and subject to the conditions set in the new ParA.

For Lifelong Learning proposals a market analysis must be included in the proposal. Relevant feasibility and market aspects must be considered in a dedicated 'go-to-market' Work Package (WPO). WPO will be updated throughout the duration of the project and enable go/no-go decisions following annual reviews.

- Above and beyond the specific EIT RawMaterials Eligibility criteria, all projects will have to comply with Horizon Europe and EIT rules, and with the conditions set in the current EIT RawMaterials Partnership Agreement (ParA).

Our project selection process is designed to:

- Continue to build the collaborative backbone of the KIC consortium and future service offerings.
- Support the building of a networked community by encouraging partners to get involved in several projects.
- Create new programmes or redesign existing programmes, including a high degree of involvement of industry partners.
- Enhance interest in and knowledge of the role and importance of raw materials in society.
- Encourage the inclusion of SMEs as partners and/or customers in the projects.
- Align with, and clearly illustrate how proposals will contribute to, the EIT Core KPIs as detailed in the *Strategic Agenda 2021-2027* of EIT RawMaterials.



2.1.1. Expected budget and funding

The exact number of projects to be funded in the framework of this call will depend on the quality of the received proposals, and on the total available funding, with funding allocated to Lighthouse projects that will depend on the overall strength of the proposals. Lighthouse and non-Lighthouse proposals will be evaluated together, and selection for funding will be based only on the eligibility, quality and strategy criteria outlined in Section 2 of this document (additional eligibility criteria apply to Lighthouse projects as outlined in the 'Lighthouse Appendix' document).

2.1.2. Confidentiality, data protection and ethical considerations

Access to the proposals will be given to EIT RawMaterials Management Team and to the evaluation panel conducting the evaluations. Everyone with access to the proposal texts will have signed a non-disclosure and confidentiality agreement before access is granted.

The title, scope, summary, name of partners in the consortium, name of coordinator and overall budget of projects approved for funding will be shared within the EIT RawMaterials community, and therefore will be made publicly available (e.g., on the EIT RawMaterials' web site, in presentations at conferences etc.). Public dissemination of the project's main results and outcomes is a mandatory condition for funding, and will be arranged jointly by the consortium and EIT RawMaterials staff taking into account the consortium's legitimate confidentiality requirements.

All data and information related to the proposal and its evaluation will be handled and stored in the 'SeedBook' platform according to EIT RawMaterials' customary procedures. The EIT RawMaterials' Code of Conduct will be followed throughout the evaluation process. External evaluators will receive specific instructions on the evaluation process, and access to the proposals will be granted to each Evaluator only after the upload of her/his 'Evaluator Agreement' with provisions on confidentiality, conflict of interest and code of conduct.

2.2. Proposal preparation, submission, evaluation and selection process

2.2.1. Proposal preparation and registration

Online matchmaking and brokerage events throughout the year allow partners to discuss project ideas and form potential consortia. It is mandatory for the Coordinator to inform her/his Innovation Hub Manager for each project proposal to be submitted. The Innovation Hub staff, including the Education Manager, and the Thematic Officers/Senior Advisors provide guidance and support in order to:

- Set up a solid consortium and find missing partner(s) if required
- Advise and support the consortium with their project proposals to ensure they are in line with the evaluation and eligibility criteria



Frequently asked questions and further guidance and advice of general interest will be posted in in the FAQ section of the online proposal submission platform “Seedbook” (<https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu>) throughout the proposal preparation period. Project Coordinators should check this section regularly to ensure that they are fully informed and updated on important matters such as eligibility and evaluation criteria, advice on the compilation of the proposal, costs and cost allocation.

It is a recommendation to contact Innovation Hub staff and the Education Manager before submitting the DRAFT proposal using the Seedbook platform.

Proposals must be registered by Friday 19 November 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time) using the SeedBook online platform.

The registration form will become available through Seedbook by mid of September 2021. Following registration, the proposal will be assigned to a Project Officer who will be the primary point of contact with the Project Coordinator throughout the submission process. Note that Project Coordinators will be able to access the online proposal submission template only after their project has been registered and assigned to a Project Officer.

2.2.2. Proposal submission

The proposal submission will take place in two stages, with a DRAFT proposal and a FINAL proposal. **Both submissions will be evaluated.** It is therefore imperative that the DRAFT proposals contain sufficient information for a comprehensive evaluation.

- **Coordinators must submit a DRAFT proposal (Stage 1) no later than Friday 19 November 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time)** using the SeedBook online platform.
- **FINAL proposals (Stage 2) must be submitted no later than Friday 18 March 2022 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time)** using the SeedBook online platform. The attached *Education Project proposal: Guidance and Template for complementary information* offers guidance for the content of the proposal.

2.2.3. Proposal evaluation and selection process

The **DRAFT proposals** submitted in Stage 1 should not exceed 5 pages and should contain an executive summary, with objectives, outcomes and final results expected (1/2 page), a short description of the consortium with role of each partner (1/2 page) and detailed information (4 pages) addressing the 6 following criteria, which will be evaluated as “yes/no”; only proposals receiving “yes” to all of the following criteria at Stage 1 will be invited to submit a FINAL proposal in Stage 2:

1. Alignment with the EIT RawMaterials Strategic Agenda 2021-27
2. Achievement of EIT Core KPIs



3. Composition of the consortium
4. Alignment to EIT RawMaterials Lighthouses – only for PhD summer/winter school proposals
5. Alignment with the thematic orientation – only for LLL proposals
6. Inclusion of a self-sustainable model after the end of the project – only for PhD summer/winter school proposals
7. Inclusion of a revenue sharing model – only for LLL proposals

Description of the above criteria:

Alignment with the EIT RawMaterials Strategic Agenda 2021-2027: The DRAFT proposal should clearly explain the impact and demonstrate how it is aligned to the expected impact in the Strategic Agenda 2021-2027. The selection of one of the LH must be clearly stated. and for LLL project only, the selection of the topic must also be indicated.

Achievement of EIT Core KPIs: The DRAFT proposal for Lifelong learning activities must clearly explain how the EIT Core KPI EIT HE 8.1 (number of participants in non-degree education and training) will be achieved (how do you plan to reach out targeted industrial customers). An estimate of how many participants will be enrolled per year should be provided with the details of the calculation.

For PhD summer school, the EIT Core KPI EIT HE 8.1 (number of participants in non-degree education and training) must also be considered and the plan to reach the targets explained.

Composition of the consortium: The DRAFT proposal must clearly describe the roles and responsibilities of every partner in the consortium. Please explain how every partner contributes in a relevant way to learning objectives of the training. The partner who will commercialize the training during the project and after the project ends must be identified (only for for LLL). For PhD summer/winter school the consortium must include at least one large industry partner or SME, and involve contribution from start-ups

Alignment to EIT RawMaterials Lighthouses – PhD Summer/winter schools only : The DRAFT proposal will be aligned to at least one EIT RawMaterials Lighthouses by incorporating at least one of the learning objectives of the corresponding Lighthouse described in Pillar 2 into the learning objectives of the PhD summer/winter school.

Alignment with the thematic orientation – Lifelong Learning proposals only : the DRAFT proposal should clearly demonstrate how the learning objectives are aligned to the thematic orientation described

Inclusion of a self-sustainable model after the end of the project – PhD Summer/winter schools only : as participation fees must be applied and must strive toward becoming a self-sustained model, the DRAFT proposal must include preliminary estimate of students' participation fees and a summary, well-planned strategy to ensure the school be run after the end of EIT funding.



Inclusion of a revenue sharing model – Lifelong Learning proposals only: the DRAFT proposal must outline the business model through which a financial backflow to the KIC is going to be initially proposed by the commercialising party.

A template will be provided in SeedBook for the submission of the DRAFT proposal (“Template for Education and RIS Education DRAFT proposals”). The template will contain specific instructions and the DRAFT proposals must contain sufficiently detailed and convincing information addressing these criteria. The evaluation will be carried out by the EIT RawMaterials Management Team.

The DRAFT proposal template must be completed and uploaded in SeedBook by **Friday 19 November 2021 at 13.00 CET**. Proposals that do NOT have this document uploaded by the due date will not be considered further in KAVA 9.

The **FINAL proposals** will be evaluated according to three sets of criteria :

Eligibility criteria - mandatory requirements (proposals that do not meet such criteria will not be considered for further evaluation), as described in section 2.3 below.

Quality criteria - quality criteria against which the collected proposals will be scored and ranked by external evaluators, according to the evaluation grid presented in section 2.4 below.

Strategy criteria - strategy criteria against which the collected proposals will be scored and ranked by the EIT RawMaterials Management Team, according to the evaluation grid presented in section 2.5 below.

Eligible proposals will be selected based on the quality and strategy criteria ranking. Quality criteria (external evaluation) account for 70% of the final score, while strategy criteria (EIT RawMaterials evaluation) account for 30%.

Proposals’ quality will be evaluated by a panel of external experts appointed by the EIT RawMaterials Management Team. EIT RawMaterials will strive to achieve balance in the Evaluators’ gender and geographic provenance.

- All members of the evaluation panel will sign non-disclosure and conflict of interest agreements.
- A minimum of three experts will be assigned to the evaluation of each proposal.
- In the first step, these assigned experts evaluate each proposal remotely using the criteria set out in the 2.4 Quality Criteria grid.
- Final evaluation of all proposals is conducted by the entire panel (with the exclusion of any member with a conflict of interest). The strengths and weaknesses of each proposal as perceived by the panel will be documented and communicated to the Project Coordinator once the evaluation process is completed.
- EIT staff and management will act as the secretaries of the panel and facilitate the discussion during evaluation panel meetings but will otherwise not take part in the evaluation process.



Proposals' strategy will be evaluated using the criteria set out in the 2.5 Strategy Criteria grid. The final selection of all proposals is conducted by the EIT RawMaterials Managing Board using the same criteria. The strengths and weaknesses of each project will be documented and communicated to the Project Coordinator once the evaluation process is completed.

Based on the evaluation and the overall available funding, the EIT RawMaterials Managing Board will propose a portfolio of projects to be funded. The Executive Board will approve the portfolio of projects to be submitted to the EIT for funding, for the Business Plan 2021-2022.

Coordinators of projects that are selected for funding will be informed after approval by the Executive Board and receive also the feedback from the evaluation panels. The feedback may include a list of requested changes that must be made by the Project Coordinator before the project can be given the final approval.

Also following approval by the Executive Board, Coordinators of projects that were not selected for funding will be informed. They will receive evaluation feedback as soon as it is finalised.

2.3. Eligibility criteria

Eligibility will be checked at the time of proposal submission and at the time of signing the Project Agreement, and apply throughout the project's funding period. In line with Horizon Europe rules, proposals that do not meet all the eligibility criteria at the time of proposal submission will be deemed ineligible and will not be evaluated. Proposals that do not meet all the eligibility criteria at the time of signing the Project Agreement will be deemed ineligible and will not be funded. After the signature of the Project Agreement, EIT RawMaterials will not consider any changes that impact on eligibility criteria, and the project will be immediately terminated if these are not met. The following criteria apply to Education proposals:

- It must be clearly explained how the proposal is aligned with the Strategic Agenda 2021-27 of EIT RawMaterials (FPA, Annex I)
- The project consortium must consist of a minimum of 2 organizations, coming from a minimum of 2 different countries
- The lead organization must be a Core or Associate Partner (or Linked Third Party to a Core or Associate Partner) of EIT RawMaterials by the time the project starts
- The project consortium must include KIC partners from at least 2 sides of the knowledge triangle (education, research, industry/business - as defined in the Partner registration documentation)
- Organizations that are non-members are eligible to apply only if they submit an EIT RawMaterials membership application by the end of April 2022. Failure to apply for EIT RawMaterials membership by the end of April 2022 will result in their removal (including the requested funding) from the proposal (note that the project will be immediately terminated if eligibility criteria are not met at this stage)



- The project cannot have one partner (including its Linked Third Parties) as the Work Package leader in all Work Packages. In most projects, it is envisaged (but not mandatory) that each partner will lead at least one WP, and that no more than 50% of the EIT funding will be assigned to any one partner (justification to be provided otherwise)
- A detailed work plan must be provided for each year of the project duration at the time of proposal submission, including determined milestones planning as described under 2.1.
- All proposals must include a ‘Dissemination and Communication Plan’ Work Package, following the communications guidelines included in the document ‘*EIT RawMaterials Communication and dissemination guidance*’
- All Lifelong Learning proposals must include a ‘Go-to-market strategy’ Work Package 0
- All proposals must include a ‘Project Management’ Work Package, following the guidelines included in the document ‘*EIT RawMaterials Project Management guidance*’. The project should be managed by a project manager (PM) with relevant expertise in managing complex projects. Her/his profile can differ from the PC’s, and s/he should commit to the project with a 15% FTE, to be monitored with timesheets (timesheet approved internally + declaration of honour) during project reporting. A one-page CV of the PM must be provided
- Lifelong Learning proposals must include a model of revenue generation through joint service creation together with EIT RawMaterials, in addition to the contribution of co-funding. There is no pre-set nor preferred model as this is highly dependent on the type and scope of the project. The model must be developed in consultation with the KIC and must be described in the proposal
- Additional eligibility criteria apply to Lighthouse proposals as outlined in the document ‘*Lighthouse Appendix*’

2.4. Quality criteria

Weight	Description of criteria (bullet points refer to examples but these are not exhaustive, and not all the points must be addressed in each project)
7	<p>1. Innovation capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall rationale for the project’s importance for the development of human capital for the sector Innovation capacity compared with current practice Contribution to EIT Core KPIs Pedagogic/Andragogic approach and innovation



	<p>Economic importance of the targeted theme/market (market size, breadth of customers/applications)</p> <p>Potential to deliver tangible results and products, processes or services that have not been delivered by other institutions</p> <p>Creation of synergies with other actors in the local ecosystem to create an impact beyond the individual project itself</p> <p>Potential for students to transform knowledge into business</p>
7	<p>2. Quality of the project definition and scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation of the raw materials challenge addressed by this project and why the project will deliver robust solutions (background, current situation, issues and opportunities – specifically pertaining to EIT RawMaterials) • Quantitative demonstration of short-term and long-term impact of the project, especially illustrating how the project impact will contribute solutions to societal and industrial challenges • Detailed, step-by-step project work plan, broken down into design, implementation and post-EIT funding phases and defining work packages, management and milestones to show how the project delivers value to the project consortium and its key stakeholders during and beyond the project • Definition of aims, objectives and deliverables and their relevance to EIT RawMaterials • Demonstration of the project’s added value in terms of entrepreneurship and innovation • Details of how the funds are to be used in the form of a clear budget plan and timeline with justification • Identification of key risks and success factors supplemented with a mitigation strategy to overcome those risks • Effective and comprehensive communication and dissemination plan, building on the communication guidelines
3	<p>3. Quality of the consortium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance and demonstrated commitment of the lead partner • Relevant experience, expertise and resources, and demonstrated commitment and engagement of each of the partners • Project governance structure and operational coordination mechanisms



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity and complementarity of the partners, and clear definition and description of roles and responsibilities with justification of why these partners were selected • Appropriate level of cooperation and interaction within the consortium • Active involvement of industrial and/or start-up/SME partners in the teaching and learning, with a clear definition and description of their role and responsibility within the project
3	<p>4. Business Potential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soundness of the proposal from a demand perspective • For Lifelong Learning proposals: competitive advantage over existing offers in the European marketplace, including an overview of the existing offers and price-benchmarking against existing competitors • Expected financial sustainability for the continuation of the programme

Total weight =20

The score given for each criterion by the panel will then be multiplied by the weight. Maximum score is 100 = 20 (total weight) * 5 (maximum score for each criterion). These quantitative scores will be used as input for the consensus evaluation panel.

2.5. Strategy criteria

Weight	Description of criteria
8	<p>1. Strategic importance for the KIC</p> <p>Overall contribution to the KIC's objectives and strategic agenda</p>
8	<p>2. Expected impact for the KIC (return on KAVA investment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic assessment of the expected contribution that the project will make to the impact of the KIC in terms of its EIT core and impact KPIs (see the Strategic Agenda 2021-2027 of EIT RawMaterials) in relation to the requested budget • KAVA co-funding brought by the consortium • For Lifelong Learning proposals: expectation and extent of revenue generation for the KIC and number of participants receiving non-degree training (EIT HE 8.1)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For PhD summer/winter schools : number of participants receiving non-degree training (EIT HE 8.1) and plan for continuation and being self sustainable
4	<p>3. Completeness and Compliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment with feedback given by EIT RawMaterials on previous submissions (if applicable) Quality of the project budget definition: clear explanation and justification of costs, proper balance of costs among partners in line with their assigned roles

Total weight =20

The score given for each criterion by the panel will then be multiplied by the weight. Maximum score is 100 = 20 (total weight) * 5 (maximum score for each criterion). These quantitative scores will be used as input for the consensus evaluation panel.

Evaluation scale: In relation to each of the criteria above, each project will be scored from 0 to 5 according to the following scale:

0	Non-existent: no relevant information provided in the application file or cannot be judged because out of range
1	Very poor: The criterion is addressed in a very incomplete and unsatisfactory manner
2	Poor: There are serious inherent weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question
3	Fair: While the proposal addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses that would need correction
4	Good: The proposal addresses the criterion well, although some improvements are possible
5	Excellent: The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor only



2.6. Calendar

Tuesday 7 September 2021	Launch of call
Wednesday 8 September 2021	The proposal submission platform “Seedbook” (https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu) goes online
Wednesday, 13 October 2021	Online Brokerage event to present KAVA Call 9 to the partners, in the frame of the Expert Forum ³ on October 13th and 14th
Friday 19 November 2021 at 13.00 CET	Proposal <u>REGISTRATION</u> deadline
Friday 19 November 2021 at 13.00 CET	<u>DRAFT Proposal SUBMISSION</u> deadline (DRAFT Proposal is uploaded in SeedBook)
Monday 22 November to Friday 10 December 2021	Evaluation of DRAFT Proposals
Friday 17 December 2021	Outcomes of the evaluation of the DRAFT proposals is communicated to the consortia
Friday 18 March 2022 at 13.00 CET	<u>FINAL Proposal SUBMISSION</u> deadline
Mid March to mid April 2022	Evaluation by panel of external experts
Mid April 2022	Preparation of list of projects for funding by KIC Management Team
Friday 22 April 2022	Approval of list of projects for funding by KIC Executive Board & communication to partners
May 2022	Registration of new partners at GA
End of May 2022	Response to mandatory changes requested by the Selection Panel (‘Change requests’) and inclusion of selected projects in Business Plan 2021-2022
Monday 13 June, 2022	Earliest starting date for approved projects (to be confirmed)
To be confirmed	EIT approval of project portfolio after all the requests for clarification have been satisfied (to be confirmed)



The next call for projects is expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2022, with a submission deadline in the third quarter of 2022.

2.7. Registration and proposal submission using SeedBook

Registrations and proposals can **only** be submitted using the IT-tool SeedBook. Project Coordinators are invited to register via this link <https://seedbook.eitrawmaterials.eu> from mid of September 2021 to get the access to the tool, register their proposal and commence the proposal submission process. Innovation Hub staff will assist in using the IT tool.

The **DRAFT Proposal** must be submitted **Friday 19 November 2021 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time)**.

The **FINAL proposals** must be submitted by **Friday 18 March 2022 at 13.00 CET (Berlin time)**.

2.8. Appeal and redress procedure

Upon reception of the feedback, the applicant may wish to lodge a request for redress, if there is a concern that there might have been a shortcoming in the way a proposal was evaluated, or if the results of the eligibility checks are incorrect. The redress procedure is not meant to call into question the judgement made by the expert-evaluators. It will consider only procedural shortcomings and factual errors.

Requests for redress should be raised within one month of the reception of the evaluation feedback sent by EIT RawMaterials, and should be sent to Compliance@eitrawmaterials.eu. Requests must:

- be related to the evaluation process, or eligibility checks;
- include a clear description of the grounds for the complaint.
- be received within the time limit specified above.

An initial reply will be sent to complainants no later than two weeks after the deadline for redress requests. This initial reply will indicate when a definitive reply will be provided. A redress committee of EIT RawMaterials may be convened to examine the evaluation process for the case under consideration. The committee's role is to ensure a coherent interpretation of requests, and equal treatment of applicants. The redress committee itself, however, does not re-evaluate the proposal. Depending on the nature of the complaint, the committee may review the evaluation report, the individual comments and examine the CVs of the evaluation experts. Following its review, the committee will recommend a course of action to the EIT RawMaterials OMT. If there is clear evidence of a shortcoming that could affect the funding decision, it is possible that all or part of the proposal may be re-evaluated. Unless there is clear evidence of a shortcoming there will be no follow-up or



re-evaluation. The Executive Board of EIT RawMaterials will be informed of any redress procedures in due course.

Please note:

- This procedure is concerned with the evaluation and/or eligibility checking process.
- The committee will not call into question the judgment of the individual expert-evaluators, whose qualifications have been already assessed and validated.
- A re-evaluation will only be carried out if there is evidence of a shortcoming that affects the quality assessment of a proposal. This means, for example, that a problem relating to one evaluation criterion will not lead to a re-evaluation if a proposal has failed anyway on the other criteria.
- The evaluation score following any re-evaluation will be regarded as definitive. It may be lower than the original score.
- Only one request for redress per proposal will be considered by the committee.
- All requests for redress will be treated confidentially.

3. Funding information

For all two KAVA types (PhD summer/winter schools and Lifelong Learning), funded activities can include:

- Partner costs for development, establishment, recruitment, marketing and communications, administration and coordination.
- Promotional activities to attract participants to relevant courses, programmes and events etc.
- Development of innovative education tools, e.g. online education, learning-by-doing modules, virtual education, MOOCs, etc. (including costs for e.g. hardware, time, travel)
- Follow-up activities related to KAVA projects that were previously granted funding. In this case, please provide an explanation of the outcomes from the first project as well as how the follow-up project will build on the results of the first project, and see the *Education Project proposal: Guidance and Template for complementary information* for further considerations to be taken into account.